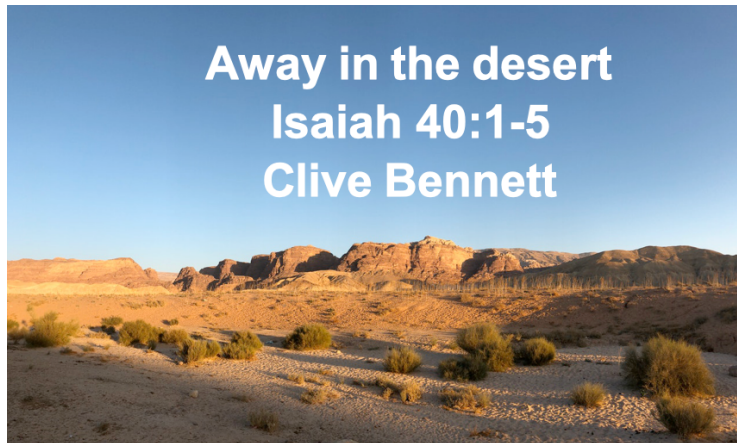


ABC NEWS

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Sunday 28th November 2021

GETTING BACK TO NORMAL ...

... but that really needs to be God's normal, not ours. So please be open to God's Holy Spirit leading us in directions that might not be so familiar to you. After all God has promised us that He is doing a new thing at ABC, and we need to be in tune with His directions.

Simon would like as many of you as possible to arrive at 10am for an impromptu prayer meeting in the prayer room, to pray specifically for the movement of the Holy Spirit.

Brenda's band will be leading the worship and Clive will be delivering the first message in our Advent series entitled, "Away in the desert" based on Isaiah 40:1-5. For worshippers who are still unable to join us, in person you can access that service by [clicking here](#). Do try to join us. Derek.

It looks like a busy week

MESSY CHURCH – Messy Church returns on Thursday, 2nd December at 3.30pm when local families with youngish children meet here in a fun and interactive way. There is definitely a child friendly atmosphere and there is even a delicious meal. So, if you know anyone who might be interested, then do bring them along. You will be most welcome. The theme of this month's gathering is "The God who came to earth."

CORPORATE PRAYER MEETING – We will be gathering in the sanctuary at 10.30am on Wednesday 1st December for our monthly corporate prayer meeting. Please do join us as we seek God's will for this church.

LUNCH CLUB – Lunch Club returns on Wednesday 1st December from 12noon to 2pm.

COLLECTING CHRISTMAS GOODIES – We will be beginning our Christmas season by organising a collection of Christmas "goodies" for local homeless people who are supported by Stonepillow. This will be on Saturday 4th December from 10am to 12 noon. Stonepillow have advised us that they would like you to donate: Tinned meat, sweet treats, biscuits, crisps, coffee and sugar, long life milk. Or simply extra funds as they can put them to where we need them. Brenda

LOVE ALDWICK LADIES CHRISTMAS CRAFT NIGHT – Thursday, 9th December 19.15. For all Ladies in the church and their friends. Please book this event in your diaries and ensure all those interested are booked in via Nicky. There will be non-alcoholic mulled wine, tea, coffee, and mince pies. Places are likely to be limited - so act quickly. Ring Nicky on 07943537785. Cost £3 per person.

STAMP COLLECTING - As Christmas draws nearer, a reminder to keep all used stamps as cards begin arriving. Last year, Baptist Missionary Society were able to make £13,500 from your used stamps, so every single one can really make a difference. Please remember to leave a border of at least 1inch/ 2.5cm round each stamp and put your stamps in the box on shelf at back of Church.

THE IMPORTANCE OF PRAYER - The place of the believer in perceiving himself as a person who has great potential in prayer is fundamental to what the church is to be. Angela

HAPPY BIRTHDAY – This week Tuesday 30th November seems very popular for birthdays as Claire Millington, Shibali Masih and Derek Robinson all will be celebrating on Tuesday. Do wish them a very "Happy Birthday". If you want to be placed on our birthday list, please contact Lynne Allard (265360. If you want details of the BMS birthday scheme, then please contact Brenda (265984).

THIS WEEK'S POEM

This week Arthur's poem reminds us that, even though we might not always understand God's plans and His timing, we should simply trust Him – because He really knows best!

"Home"

When you have been far away
From those you love and so alone.
Oh, what joy
When you come back home.
You can seek all the pleasures of this world,
All the wealth and fame.
But none of these replace the joy
Of being home again
One day we will go to our eternal home
Away from sorrow and pain
Where we will never say
Goodbye again
Amen.

Arthur Magee

BARNABAS FUND FOLLOW UP - My sincere thanks to those who attended our Misson gathering last Sunday. Recent TV news has highlighted both the Polish /Belarusian border crossing and the Calais refugees, which only underlines my reference to those desperate masses escaping persecution in their homelands. Numbers were minimal at our meeting, but I would like as many ABC folk as possible to take one of our latest (free) Barnabas Aid magazines. The content is so informative and challenging. Either see me or pick up a copy from the back of the church.

WEEKLY OFFERING – Thank you for your continued financial support for the various ministries of our church. I am grateful that many of you now donate through the bank which makes my life as treasurer much simpler. As we no longer take an active collection during our Sunday worship services, we have positioned an offering box on the back wall of the sanctuary near to the main entry doors. Please place your offerings in there. The box is emptied later in the day and no money is left on the premises in line with our insurance policy. Thank you again for your generosity in supporting the Lord's work here. Derek

- **THANK YOU** - A sincere thank you to all who filled the shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child. They are now well on their way to make some child's Christmas a happy one thanks to your generosity.
- **VENTILATION AT ABC** – Please note that the government's advice remains there should be adequate ventilation where groups are meeting indoors. This is for our own safety. Please do not shut the windows but maybe wear something warm.
- **FIRST RESPONDER** – Simon will be acting as first responder in the event of emergencies and urgent prayer needs.
- **EVE WILLIAMS** – Eve had a fall late on Thursday evening and is currently at St. Richard's Hospital. Apparently, she isn't injured but has a high sugar level which is causing the problem. Please pray for an accurate diagnosis, healing, peace of mind and pain relief.
- **PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR** – Kay Tucker, Vivienne Newman, Bob Hobart, Molly Hawkins, Christine Grant, Doreen Evans, Ann Tyler, Polly Bennett, Mavis Eade, Eve Williams, Janice Sprules, Hilary Naesmith, Michelle and Jon Crane, Joan Brett, Val Collett and for any others in our fellowship who are unwell at this time.
- **PLEASE PRAY TOO FOR** – Our members and friends who are still unable to worship with us through ongoing concerns about coronavirus especially as cases continue to rise across the country. They miss the fellowship, and we miss them.
- **PASTORAL CARE** – We are currently rethinking our pastoral care system to show that we really do love each other and care for each other. If you have any suggestions as to how we might do this, do let me know. I will be calling a meeting for the pastoral phone line team and anyone else interested soon – so do watch out for further updates. Thank you for all you already do. Derek.

Contact and Church office information

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